

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 February 2018

Previous inspection date

8 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has addressed weaknesses raised at her last inspection. She regularly carries out assessments of children's achievements and uses this information to plan fun learning experiences. Children make good progress.
- Children develop very strong bonds with the childminder and her husband. They include them in their play and seek them out for spontaneous cuddles. Children are happy, settled and content in the childminder's care.
- Children are supported to learn how to keep themselves and others safe. During the walk home from nursery, they describe in detail, how to use a pelican crossing. They also identify the dangers of slipping when treading on wet leaves.
- Parents comment that they like the home-from-home environment that the childminder provides. They talk about how she understands their children's needs and is supportive at all times. Parents describe the childminder as attentive and say that she accommodates their changing needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not give children the time they need to persevere at tasks and work things out for themselves.
- At times, the childminder misses opportunities to extend children's language skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- extend opportunities for younger children to solve the problems they encounter as they play
- strengthen opportunities for young children to use age-appropriate language to make their needs known.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed training updates that help to raise her awareness of the possible signs of abuse. She knows the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child. The childminder has risk assessed her home. She minimises identified risks and provides children with good levels of supervision. This helps her to keep them safe. Parents are regularly provided with information about their children's care and learning. The childminder seeks their views and opinions about the service she provides. This helps her to reflect on her practice and develop ideas that promote future improvements, such as through seeking further training to improve her skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses information gained from parents and her own observations of children to assess their starting points. Young children enjoy taking part in activities that help them to develop control of their movements. They demonstrate good hand-to-eye coordination as they join coloured building bricks together to make a tower. The childminder supports young children's understanding of the world. They show interest as she talks to them about the snow that they can see falling outside. Children use their imaginations as they mimic what they have observed. They demonstrate good physical skills when they hold a broom and begin to move it backwards and forwards in a sweeping motion. The childminder speaks clearly to children and, at times, uses gestures to promote their understanding.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder finds out about children's routines and care needs at the start. She holds daily discussions with parents that help keep her updated about any changes. Young children show a growing sense of independence. They competently feed themselves and then put their snack bar wrapper into the bin. Children enjoy outdoor play opportunities in the childminder's garden. During the summer months, the childminder takes them to local parks. Children bring a packed lunch and the childminder provides them with a balanced range of snacks, including fresh fruit. The childminder talks to children about staying healthy and promotes routines that support her discussions. She provides gentle reminders to older children about handwashing at pertinent times. Children's behaviour is good. They enjoy the consistent praise that acknowledges their achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in line with their starting points. They engage well in learning. Children show good levels of confidence as they move around the childminder's home, and make decisions and choices about their play. Children show a desire to help with their personal needs. They cooperate with nappy changing and want to dress themselves. They are developing the skills and knowledge needed for the next stages in their learning and eventual moves to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124057
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1107437
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1988 and lives in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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